CITY ATTORNEY

2010 MAR -8 PM 3: 40 GREGORY W. SMITH (SBN 134385) LAW OFFICES OF GREGORY W. SMITH 6300 Canoga Avenue, Suite 1590 Woodland Hills, California 91367 (818) 712-4000 Telephone: 3 (213) 385-3400 (818) 712-4004 Telecopier: CHRISTOPHER BRIZZOLARA (SBN 130304) 1528 16th Street Santa Monica, California 90404 Telephone: (310) 394-6447 Telecopier: (310) 656-7701 Attorneys for Plaintiff WILLIAM TAYLOR 9 UNLIMITED JURISDICTION 10 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 11 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 12 13 **CASE NO. BC 422 252** WILLIAM TAYLOR, 14 [Assigned to John Shepard Wiley, Jr. Plaintiff. 15 Judge, Dept. 50] VS. 16 SEPARATE STATEMENT OF FORM CITY OF BURBANK and DOES 1 through INTERROGATORIES-EMPLOYMENT 17 100. inclusive. LAW AND RESPONSES IN DISPUTE Defendants. 18 IFILED AND SERVED CONCURRENTLY WITH MOTION 19 FOR DISCOVERY OF PEACE OFFICER PERSONNEL AND TO COMPEL 20 **FURTHER RESPONSES TO** INTERROGATORIES AND REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION] 21 22 Date: April 22, 2010 Time: 8:30 a.m. 23 Dept.: 50 24 September 22, 2009 Action Filed: November 5, 2010 FSC: 25 November 16, 2010 Trial: 26 27 28

SEPARATE STATEMENT OF FORM INTERROGATORIES-EMPLOYMENT LAW AND RESPONSES IN DISPUTE

3.5.10

TO THE COURT, ALL PARTIES, AND TO THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff William Taylor hereby provides the following separate statement of form interrogatories and responses in dispute, and the reasons why further responses should be compelled.

FORM INTERROGATORY NO. 201.3:

Were there any other **ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTIONS**, including (the asking party should list the **ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTIONS**): DEMOTION TO CAPTAIN If so, for each action, provide the following:

- (a) all reasons for each ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTION;
- (b) the name, ADDRESS, and telephone number of each PERSON who participated in making each ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTION decision;
- the name, ADDRESS, and telephone number of each PERSON who provided any information relied upon in making each ADVERSE

 EMPLOYMENT ACTION decision; and
- (d) the identity of all DOCUMENTS relied upon in making each ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTION decision.

RESPONSE TO FORM INTERROGATORY NO. 201.3:

City objects to this interrogatory on the grounds that it is misleading and assumes facts in listing a "demotion to Captain," as at all relevant times, plaintiff was a Captain with the Burbank Police Department and was never demoted to that rank. Moreover, to the extent that plaintiff intends to refer to the elimination of the assignment for a Captain to serve in the capacity of a Deputy Chief, City objects that this is a misleading use of a

special definition of the phrase "ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTION" that conflicts with the legal definition of that term. City further objects to this interrogatory to the extent it calls for information which is privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure by Penal Code §832.7 and Evidence Code §1043. Notwithstanding, but subject to the foregoing objections, City responds as follows on information and belief:

No. There was no Adverse Employment Action against plaintiff, nor was plaintiff demoted to Captain.

To the extent that this interrogatory is intended to simply ask about the elimination of the assignment for a Captain to serve in the capacity of Deputy Chief, City responds as follows:

(a-b) Plaintiff was not demoted from Deputy Chief to Captain. At all relevant times, plaintiff has held the position of Captain. There is no Deputy Chief position or classification in the Burbank Police Department. The Chief of Police has been authorized to designate one of his captains to serve an assignment in the capacity of a Deputy Police Chief. Plaintiff, as a captain, served in that assigned capacity from approximately August 2007 until approximately May 2009. The captain serving in the assigned capacity of Deputy Police Chief was tasked with day-to-day oversight of the Department's operations and to train and mentor new Captains. This assignment was created under a previous administration.

In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police

Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the

Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and he wanted to have more direct

control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the

assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and re-

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assigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

- (c) The following witnesses were aware of the reasons for the restructuring:

 Plaintiff, Chief of Police Tim Stehr and his Command Staff, all members of the Department who received the Chief's Daily Bulletin on the restructuring, Elizabeth J. Gibbons, City Manager Mike Flad. Witness information gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when and if they are discoverable.
- (d) The following documents relate to the restructuring: May 14, 2009 and letter from Juli C. Scott to Elizabeth J. Gibbons and documents referred to therein; Burbank Police Daily Bulletin dated May 4, 2009; City of Burbank, Management Services Division, Personnel Action Forms as to plaintiff, 2007 through 2009, and other miscellaneous Human Resources, personnel and payroil documents. **Documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when and if they are discoverable.** (Emphasis added.)

REASON WHY FURTHER RESPONSE SHOULD BE COMPELLED:

It is clear from defendant's response that defendant relies upon "witness information and documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff" in regard to the alleged reasons for its demotion of plaintiff from Deputy Chief to Captain. Indeed, defendant claims that the "the most serious contributing factor" relied upon by defendant in demoting plaintiff was the alleged improprieties of plaintiff which are the subject of these alleged confidential investigations. Defendant cannot have its cake and eat it too. Plaintiff is entitled to be apprised by defendant under oath of all facts, witnesses, and documents that defendant claims allegedly support its contentions in this matter so that plaintiff may rebut same and demonstrate that such alleged reasons are false, pretextual, and a sham, and that the real reason for the demotion and other adverse employment actions taken against plaintiff was retaliation by defendant for plaintiff engaging in activities protected by *Labor Code* Section 1102.5 and FEHA.

The *McDonnell Douglas* burden-shifting framework applies in FEHA retaliation cases as well as discrimination cases under both federal and state law. The same framework also applies to retaliation actions premised on violations of *Labor Code* Section 1102.5. *Patten v. Grant Joint Union High School District* (2005) 134 Cal.App.4th 1378. Under this framework, a plaintiff is required to establish a prima facie case, which consists of showing that: a) plaintiff engaged in a protected activity; b) the employer subjected plaintiff to an adverse employment action; and c) a causal link exists between the protected activity and the employer's action. *Passantino v. Johnson & Johnson Consumer Products, Inc.* (9th Cir. 2000) 212 F.3d 493, 506 (under Title VII); *Yanowitz v. L'Oreal USA, Inc.* (2005) 36 Cal.4th 1028, 1044, 32 Cal.Rptr.3d 436, 446 (under FEHA).

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The causal link may be based solely on the timing of the relevant actions:

"Specifically, when adverse employment decisions are taken within a reasonable period of time after complaints of discrimination have been made, retaliatory intent may be inferred." Passantino v. Johnson & Johnson Consumer Products, Inc. (9th Cir. 2000) 212

F.3d 493, 507; Mulhall v. Ashcroft, supra, 287 F.3d at 551; Mariani-Colon v. Department of Homeland Security ex rel. Chertoff (1st Cir. 2007) 511 F.3d 216, 224 - temporal proximity (2 months) between protected activity and discharge sufficient for relatively light burden of establishing prima facie case of retaliation.

Thus, the temporal relationship between engaging in the protected activity and a subsequent adverse employment action is circumstantial evidence of retaliation. Flait v. North American Watch Company (1992) 3 Cal.App.4th 467, 478 -479. A series of acts on the part of a defendant employer which proceed in linear fashion from whistleblower disclosures and culminating in adverse employment actions present a triable issue of material fact as to a "causal link" between the protected activity and the adverse employment action. Patten v. Grant Joint Union High School District, supra, 134 Cal.App.4th at 1390. Here, the temporal and linear connection is both direct and obvious. Moreover, the relationship between plaintiff's whistleblowing activities and the adverse employment actions is sufficient by itself to provide circumstantial evidence of retaliation sufficient to establish a prima facie case. In Colarossi v. Coty US Inc. (2002) 97 Cal. App. 4th 1142, the court noted that "suspicious" timing of the employer's actions may provide the circumstantial link needed to infer that an improper purpose accounted for the adverse action. (Id. at 1154.) "The timing of the decision may have been coincidental, but when viewed as part of the mosaic of evidence" plaintiff presented, it will support the causal element of an employment claim. As stated in Passantino v. Johnson & Johnson

Consumer Prods., Inc. (9th Cir 2000) 212 F.3d 493, 507: "[T]his close timing provides circumstantial evidence of retaliation that is sufficient to create a prima facie case of retaliation." (noting that causation can be inferred from timing alone.); See also, e.g. Miller v.Fairchild Indus. (9th Cir. 1989) 885 F. 2d 498, 505.

Once plaintiff has established a prima facie case, the employer must then articulate a legitimate, nonretaliatory reason for each of the adverse employment actions taken. If the defendant is able to do so, then the plaintiff must prove the employer's reason is a pretext. Stegall v. Citadel Broadcasting Co. (9th Cir. 2003) 350 F.3d 1061, 1065; Flait v. North American Watch Corp. (1992) 3 Cal.App.4th 467, 475-476.

Here, plaintiff engaged in the activities of whistleblowing and reporting and protesting discrimination in the workplace, which activities are protected activities under *Labor Code* Section 1102.5 and FEHA. Within a short time of engaging in such protected activities plaintiff was demoted from the rank of Deputy Chief to Captain, and has subsequently been placed on administrative leave, based upon alleged reason that plaintiff had engaged in improprieties, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in and attempted to influence an internal affairs investigation. Plaintiff contends that this alleged reason is false and a sham, and is simply a pretext for retaliating against plaintiff based upon his engaging in the protected activities enumerated above. It is well settled that evidence of dishonest reasons for adverse employment actions proferred by the employer permits a finding of prohibited motive, bias, or intent. *Reeves v. Sanderson Plumbing Products, Inc.* (2000) 530 U.S. 133, 148- 149, 120 S. Ct. 2097, 2109; *St. Mary's Honor Center v. Hicks* (1993) 509 U.S. 502, 511, 518, 113 S. Ct. at pp. 2749-2750, 2753.

Pretext, like a prima facie showing of causation, may be inferred from the timing of the company's termination decision, by the identity of the person making the decision, and

by the terminated employee's job performance before termination. Sada v. Robert F.

Kennedy Medical Center (1997) 56 Cal.App.4th 138, 156 - 157; Flait v. North American

Watch Co., supra, 3 Cal.App.4th at 478 - 479; see also, Miller v. Fairchild Industries, Inc.,

885 F.2d 498, 505-06 (9th Cir. 1989). These factors support an inference that defendant's

stated reason for taking adverse employment actions against plaintiffs were merely a

subterfuge for its retaliatory conduct. See, Sada v. Robert F. Kennedy Medical Center,

supra, 56 Cal.App.4th at 156; Flait v. North American Watch Co., supra, 3 Cal.App.4th at

480 ("Viewing the evidence in the light most favorable to [the plaintiff], a reasonable trier

of fact could conclude that [the defendant's] articulated reasons for terminating [the

plaintiff's] employment are not worthy of credence").

As such, the information and documents sought by this motion are directly relevant and discoverable in regard to the defendant's alleged reason for the adverse employment actions taken against plaintiff, and are directly relevant and discoverable in regard to plaintiff establishing that the defendant's proffered reason is false and pretextual.

II. THE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS REQUESTED ARE NOT PRIVILEGED UNDER EVIDENCE CODE SECTION 1040, ET SEQ.

Defendant vaguely claims that the "witness information and documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged". However, during the meet and confer process in regard to this motion, defendant cited only a single case, *County of Orange v. Superior Court* (2000) 79 Cal.App.4th 759, in support of its position that the information and documents sought are confidential. The *County of Orange* case is readily distinguishable, and does not support defendant withholding the information and documents sought under the facts of this case.

In the County of Orange case, the plaintiffs sought to obtain the files regarding an

on-going criminal homicide investigation regarding the murder of a two year old boy in which the plaintiffs had been identified as two of the primary suspects. The court held as follows:

"We conclude on the record before us that the public interest in solving C. T. Turner's homicide and bringing the perpetrator(s) to justice outweighed the Wus' interest in obtaining the discovery sought, at least at the time this matter was considered below. We recognize the rather arbitrary nature of this conclusion, but the order we review was made less than a year after this civil action was filed. (And it is still less than three years since it was filed.) When one reflects that the lives of other children may be at risk with the killer(s) still at large, the important interests in vindicating wronged plaintiffs and clearing dockets do not seem quite so important. Consequently, we find the superior court abused its discretion in ordering production of the investigative file to the Wus' attorney. And, parenthetically, we think that most reasonable parents in the Wus' position would concur that the interest in apprehending a child's killer must continue to take priority over any civil action of theirs. 79 Cal.App.4th 759, 767 - 768.

Here, there is no unsolved homicide of a child that is being investigated by the defendant in which plaintiff is a suspect. Indeed, there is no criminal investigation of any kind being conducted by the defendant in which plaintiff is a suspect. At best, defendant claims to be investigating alleged violations of its own internal policies regarding the conducting of internal affairs investigations. Defendant cannot possibly cite to any public interest in maintaining the confidentiality of the information and documents at issue that approaches in any way the magnitude of the public interest in apprehending the murderer of a two year old boy. Indeed, exactly the opposite is true - the public interest in assuring that law enforcement officials such a plaintiff, the former Deputy Chief of the defendant's own police department, be free to report wrongdoing and discrimination by other members of his police department without fear of retalliation, clearly outweighs any alleged confidentiality interests of the defendant. Here, the public interest overwhelmingly supports that plaintiff be provided with all of the information and documents necessary to rebut defendant's specious and retalliatory claims of misconduct by plaintiff, and to protect plaintiff's statutory rights to report the misconduct of defendant and its employees.

III.

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 PLAINTIFF AND HIS COUNSEL SHOULD BE PROVIDED THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATEMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS REGARDING THE INCIDENTS AT ISSUE IN ORDER TO REBUT DEFENDANT'S ALLEGED REASON FOR TAKING ADVERSE ACTIONS AGAINST PLAINTIFF, TO PREPARE FOR DEPOSITIONS AND TRIAL, AND TO BE ABLE TO IMPEACH THE TESTIMONY AND REFRESH THE RECOLLECTIONS OF WITNESSES, AS HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY FOUND PROPER IN THE HAGGERTY V. SUPERIOR COURT CASE

In Haggerty v. Superior Court (2004) 117 Cal.App.4th 1079, 1089, the court specifically held that disclosure pursuant to the Pitchess procedure of internal affairs investigation reports and other investigative materials regarding the incident at issue in the civil case against a deputy sheriff, including internal affairs interviews, transcripts, and other data, was proper. Here, similarly, the Court should order the production of all relevant reports, investigative materials, interviews, transcripts, and other data regarding the investigation and disposition of any complaints of misconduct allegedly involving plaintiff.

Here, as in *Haggerty v. Superior Court, supra*, 17 Cal.App. 4th at 1089 - 1091, the facts gleaned from the internal investigations at issue are directly relevant to the matters at issue in the lawsuit. Moreover, as in *Haggerty*, the requested discovery is important, not only for determining the events that occurred during the incidents, but also for plaintiff's counsel to prepare effective cross-examination of defense witnesses, including to impeach witnesses whose testimony at trial differs from statements made to the investigating officers and/or to refresh the recollections of these witnesses. (See *People v. Hustead* (1999) 74 Cal.App.4th 410, 417; see also, *People v. Memro, supra*, 38 Cal.3d at 677 ["one legitimate goal of [*Pitchess*] discovery is to obtain information 'for possible use to impeach or cross-examine an adverse witness.] See also, *Garden Grove Police Department v. Superior Court, supra*, 89 Cal. App. 4th at 433.

Plaintiff is therefore entitled to the requested information not only to use as

substantive evidence to establish that defendant's alleged reasons for the adverse employment actions at issue are pretextual, but also to use to impeach the testimony and/or refresh the recollections of defense and other witnesses. As in *Haggerty*, the investigations at issue concern the very incidents that are the subject of the civil claim. Additionally, as in *Haggerty*, the privacy concerns of defendant and its employees are diminished because they are the persons and/or entities whose conduct is at issue in the litigation, and the requested internal investigation records concern their actions that are alleged to be wrongful and will be fully litigated at trial.

Because of the direct relevance of the information, courts have recognized that the law enforcement records of the investigations of the matters at issue in the case are discoverable and have never imposed any special limitations on this disclosure if the requested discovery otherwise meets the statutory criteria. (See *Robinson v. Superior Court* (1978) 76 Cal.App.3d 968, 978 - "[a]II statements made by percipient witnesses and witnesses ... related to the incident in question ... are discoverable under the standards set forth in *Pitchess*"; see also *People v. Alexander* (1983) 140 Cal.App.3d 647, 659, disapproved on another point in *People v. Swain* (1996) 12 Cal.4th 593.

Further, the *Haggerty* court also rejected the contention that the disclosure of relevant internal affairs records would have a chilling effect on every law enforcement agency's ability to conduct an uninhibited, thorough and candid analysis of a complaint, finding such concerns speculative. The court noted that the question of whether police investigation records are discoverable has been unequivocally answered in the affirmative by the Legislature in enacting the *Pitchess* statutory scheme, and that the *Pitchess* "legislation was intended to balance the need of criminal defendants [and civil litigants] to relevant information and the legitimate concerns for confidentiality of police

personnel records." *People v. Breaux* (1991) 1 Cal.4th 281, 312. The court held that in balancing these interests, the Legislature made a decision that relevant evidence contained in a personnel file, including internal investigation records and reports, should be disclosed upon a proper showing of materiality and relevance, and did not provide any blanket exceptions to the discoverability of such reports, particularly in the civil context. *Haggerty v. Superior Court, supra,* 17 Cal.App. 4th at 1091 - 1092.

Here, a plausible foundation exists to conclude that plaintiff was subjected to retaliation by defendant for engaging in activities protected by *Labor Code* Section 1102.5 and FEHA. The information and documents sought are directly relevant and material to plaintiff's contentions that the reason given for the retaliatory actions by defendant are false, a sham, and simply a pretext for retaliation. Indeed, defendant and its counsel have conceded that such information and documents are relevant by repeatedly referencing same throughout defendant's sworn discovery responses in this matter. As such, the records pertaining to the investigations by defendant of the allegations made against plaintiff are relevant and material. The information and documents sought should be disclosed to plaintiff. In the alternative, such information and documents should be examined by the court *in camera*, and all evidence relevant to plaintiff's claims should be turned over to plaintiff's counsel.

IV. THE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS REQUESTED ARE NOT PRIVILEGED UNDER THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE OR THE ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT DOCTRINE

An employer waives the attorney-client and attorney work product privileges regarding the contents of an investigation by raising the fact of the investigation as a defense. Wellpoint Health Networks, Inc. v. Sup.Ct. (McCombs) (1997) 59 Cal.App.4th 110, 122-124, 128 - defendants waived attorney-client privilege regarding contents

investigation of plaintiff's sexual harassment claim by raising fact of investigation as defense. (See also, *McGrath v. Nassau County Health Care Corp.* (ED NY 2001) 204 F.R.D. 240, 244. Where the employer relies on the investigator's report to show that it conducted an adequate investigation of charges, that report will be subject to pretrial discovery, even if the investigator was an attorney. *Wellpoint Health Networks, Inc. v. Sup.Ct. (McCombs)* (1997) 59 Cal.App.4th 110 - employer's pleading adequacy of its investigation as defense waives attorney-client privilege and work product doctrine; *Walker v. Contra Costa County* (ND CA 2005) 227 F.R.D. 529, 535 - pleading adequate investigation of harassment complaint as affirmative defense waived attorney-client privilege, self-evaluative privilege and attorney work product protection.

Further, a report that simply summarizes the investigation or presents factual conclusions for management action, and does not contain confidential legal advice, is not privileged from discovery even if it was prepared by an attorney. *Wellpoint Health Networks, Inc. v. Sup.Ct.* (McCombs) (1997) 59 Cal.App.4th 110, 121-122.

Here, the investigation at issue is being conducted by an investigator named James Gardiner, and not by any attorney. Defendant is specifically relying upon the information and documents generated by this investigation to support its denials and alleged defenses in this matter. As such, even if the attorney-client and/or attorney work product privileges applied to this investigation (which they do not), such privileges have been waived by defendant.

V. PLAINTIFF IS ENTITLED TO DISCLOSURE OF THE REQUESTED DOCUMENTS

A. Peace Officer Personnel Records Are Expressly Discoverable Pursuant to Evidence Code §1043(a) and 1045(a)

Evidence Code §1043 and 1045(a) provide that if the personnel records and

information contained therein are relevant to the subject matter of the litigation, upon motion by the party seeking the records and information there is a right of access to the records of complaints, investigations of complaints, and discipline imposed as a result of such investigations.

Evidence Code §1045(a) provides as follows:

"(a) Nothing in this article shall be construed to affect the right of access to records of complaints, or investigations of complaints, or discipline imposed as a result of such investigations, concerning an event or transaction in which the peace officer participated, or which he perceived, and the manner in which he performed his duties, provided that such information is relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending litigation. (Emphasis added)

This subdivision is "expansive." Fletcher v. Superior Court (2002) 100 Cal.App.4th 386, 399. In particular, "relevant information" under Evidence Code Section 1045 is not limited to facts that may be admissible at trial, but may include facts that could lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. People v. Memro, supra, 38 Cal.3d at 681-682; People v. Hustead, supra, 74 Cal.App.4th at 423.

Under the statutory scheme, a party seeking discovery of a peace officer's personnel records need only file a written motion describing the type of records sought, supported by "[a]ffidavits showing good cause for the discovery..., setting forth the materiality thereof to the subject matter involved in the pending litigation and stating upon reasonable belief that the governmental agency identified has the records or information from the records." (Evidence Code § 1043 (b)(3).) This initial burden is a "relatively relaxed standard." City of Santa Cruz v. Municipal Court (1989) 49 Cal.3d 74, 84.

Information is material as defined by Evidence Code § 1043 (b)(3) if it 'will facilitate the ascertainment of the facts and a fair trial.' "[A] declaration by counsel on information and belief is sufficient to state facts to satisfy the 'materiality' component of that section." Abatti v. Superior Court, supra, 112 Cal.App.4th at 51.

In Santa Cruz v. Municipal Court, supra, 49 Cal.3d 88 - 89, the California Supreme Court held that personal knowledge is not required by Evidence Code 1043(b) and that an affidavit on information and belief is sufficient. The Court found that in the context of Pitchess motions, the Legislature had expressly considered and rejected a requirement of personal knowledge. The Court held that the legislative history, the case law background, and the statutory language all point to the same conclusion: the "materiality" component of Evidence Code § 1043(b) may be satisfied by affidavits based on information and belief. (49 Cal.3d at 89.)

In Abatti v. Superior Court, supra, 112 Cal.App.4th 39, the Pitchess motion contained an affidavit of counsel that related statements from other officers that the former officer had been asked to leave, and had been the subject of other complaints, and was labeled a "liability" problem for the department. *Id.* at 46-47. The court considered counsel's affidavit sufficient, even though it merely averred the contents of the counseling memos rather than stating with specificity the evidence which was contained therein. The court reasoned that to require such "specificity" in the Pitchess process would place the proponent of the motion in a "Catch-22" position of having to allege with particularity the very information he or she is seeking. *Id.* at 47, fn. 7.

VI. THE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS SOUGHT ARE RELEVANT AND DISCOVERABLE, AND RELATE DIRECTLY TO DISPUTED ISSUES IN THIS CASE

Relevance is defined by Evidence Code Section 210, which provides that:

"Relevant evidence" means evidence, including evidence relevant to the credibility of a witness or hearsay declarant, having any tendency in reason to prove or disprove any disputed fact that is of consequence to the determination of the action."

Relevance to the subject matter is to be broadly construed and is not limited to relevance to the narrow issues of the case. *Greyhound Corporation v. Superior Court*

(1961) 56 Cal.2d 355, 378, 390. As set forth above, in the *Pitchess* motion context, a declaration by counsel on information and belief is sufficient to state facts to satisfy the 'materiality' component of *Evidence Code* § 1043(a). *Abatti v. Superior Court* (2003) 112 Cal.App.4th 39, 51; *Haggerty v. Superior Court, supra*, 17 Cal.App. 4th at 1086.

Here, there is a reasonable basis to conclude the internal investigation files at issue contain information that are relevant and material to the lawsuit. (See *Robinson v. Superior Court, supra,* 76 Cal.App.3d at 977 [noting that the relevancy of an investigation of the incident that is the basis for the lawsuit is "self-evident"]. Indeed, the records requested involve the investigations of the very matters which are the basis of defendant's alleged defenses in this matter, and are therefore directly relevant to the allegations in this case. Further, such documents, including the statements taken of witnesses during the internal investigations by defendant, are evidence relevant to the credibility of the witnesses.

It is unfair, unjust, and inequitable for defendant and its counsel to have access to this information and materials, to rely upon same in denying plaintiff's allegations, and to utilize same to prepare for deposition and trial, and to deny plaintiff's counsel access to the same information and documents. *Evidence Code* Sections 1043 and 1045 are not intended to provide public entities and law enforcement agencies with an unfair advantage in defending civil actions. A public entity cannot invoke these code sections to withhold evidence relevant to the case. *Garden Grove Police Dept. v. Superior Court* (2001) 89 Cal.App.4th 430, 433, c.f. *People v. Memro* (1985) 38 Cal.3d 658, 679. As the court stated in *Gill v. Manuel* (9th Cir. 1973) 488 F.2d 799, 803, *Evidence Code* §1040 is not "intended to provide a shield behind which law enforcement personnel may seek refuge for possible wrongdoings."

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The declaration submitted herewith contains facts that establish a plausible foundation to conclude that defendant engaged in retaliation against plaintiff. The conduct by plaintiff which defendant contends supports its retaliatory actions against plaintiff was the subject of one or more internal affairs investigations by the defendant. Plaintiff contends that the allegations by defendant of misconduct by plaintiff are unfounded, and the information and documents regarding defendant's investigation of such alleged misconduct will demonstrate that the allegations are specious. As such, the facts regarding these matters, which are of consequence to the determination of this action, are disputed between the parties, and the requested information, documents, and items are relevant and discoverable in regard to such disputed issues.

FORM INTERROGATORY NO. 201.4:

Was the **TERMINATION** or any other **ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTIONS** referred to in Interrogatories 201.1 through 201.3 based in whole or in part on the **EMPLOYEE'S** job performance? If so, for each action:

- (a) identify the ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTION;
- (b) identify the EMPLOYEE'S specific job performance that played a role in that ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTION;
- (c) identify any rules, guidelines, policies, or procedures that were used to evaluate the **EMPLOYEE'S** specific job performance;
- (d) state the names, ADDRESSES, and telephone numbers of all PERSONS who had responsibility for evaluating the specific job performance of the EMPLOYEE;

- (e) state the names, ADDRESSES, and telephone numbers of all PERSONS who have knowledge of the EMPLOYEE'S specific job performance that played a role in that ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTION; and
- (f) describe all warnings given with respect to the **EMPLOYEE'S** specific job performance.

RESPONSE TO FORM INTERROGATORY NO. 201.4:

City objects to this interrogatory on the grounds that it is misleading and assumes facts in listing a "demotion to Captain," as at all relevant times, plaintiff was a Captain with the Burbank Police Department, and was never demoted to that rank. Moreover, to the extent that plaintiff intends to refer to the elimination of the assignment for a Captain to serve in the capacity of a Deputy Chief, City objects that this is a misleading use of a special definition of the phrase "ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTION" that conflicts with the legal definition of that term. Notwithstanding, but subject to the foregoing, City responds as follows on information and belief:

There was no Adverse Employment Action against plaintiff, nor was plaintiff demoted to Captain.

To the extent that this interrogatory is intended to simply ask about the elimination of the assignment for a Captain to serve in the capacity of Deputy Chief, City responds as follows:

- (a) There was no adverse employment action.
- (b) In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police

 Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the

 Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and Chief Stehr wanted to have

more direct control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and reassigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

- (c) City personnel rules, administrative rules and regulations, civil service rules,Municipal Code, and resolutions pertaining to wages and compensation.
 - (d) Tim Stehr
- (e) The following witnesses were aware of the reasons for the restructuring:

 Plaintiff, Chief of Police Tim Stehr and his Command Staff, all members of the Department who received the Chief's Daily Bulletin on the restructuring, Elizabeth J. Gibbons, City Manager Mike Flad. Witness information gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when and if they are discoverable.
- (f) The following documents relate to the restructuring: May 14, 2009 and letter from Juli C. Scott to Elizabeth J. Gibbons and documents referred to therein; Burbank Police Daily Bulletin dated May 4, 2009; City of Burbank, Management Services Division,

Personnel Action Forms as to plaintiff, 2007 through 2009, and other miscellaneous
Human Resources, personnel and payroll documents. **Documents gathered or**generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is
ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when
and if they are discoverable. (Emphasis added.)

REASON WHY FURTHER RESPONSE SHOULD BE COMPELLED:

It is clear from defendant's response that defendant relies upon "witness information and documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff" in regard to the alleged reasons for its demotion of plaintiff from Deputy Chief to Captain. Indeed, defendant claims that the "the most serious contributing factor" relied upon by defendant in demoting plaintiff was the alleged improprieties of plaintiff which are the subject of these alleged confidential investigations. Defendant cannot have its cake and eat it too. Plaintiff is entitled to be apprised by defendant under oath of all facts, witnesses, and documents that defendant claims allegedly support its contentions in this matter so that plaintiff may rebut same and demonstrate that such alleged reasons are false, pretextual, and a sham, and that the real reason for the demotion and other adverse employment actions taken against plaintiff was retaliation by defendant for plaintiff engaging in activities protected by *Labor Code* Section 1102.5 and FEHA.

Plaintiff contends that none of the requested information and documents are confidential and protected from discovery, under <u>Penal Code</u> §832.7, <u>Evidence Code</u> §1043, the attorney-client privilege, the attorney work-product doctrine, or any other privilege. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference all of the authorities and argument

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regarding the relevance, discoverability, and reasons why such information and documents are not privileged as set forth above in regard to Form Interrogatory No. 201.3 as though set forth here in extenso.

FORM INTERROGATORY NO. 216.1:

Identify each denial of a material allegation and each special or affirmative defense in your PLEADINGS and for each:

- state all facts upon which you base the denial or special or affirmative (a) defense;
- state the names, ADDRESSES, and telephone numbers of all PERSONS (b) who have knowledge of those facts; and
- identify all DOCUMENTS and all other tangible things, that support your (c) denial or special or affirmative defense, and state the name, ADDRESS, and telephone number of the PERSON who has each DOCUMENT.

RESPONSE TO FORM INTERROGATORY NO. 216.1:

City objects to this interrogatory on the grounds that seeks to invade the attorneyclient privilege and the attorney work product doctrine and to violate Penal Code §832.7 and Evidence Code §1043. Notwithstanding, but subject to the foregoing, City responds as follows on information and belief:

Plaintiff did not complain about discrimination in the Burbank Police (a) Department to either City Manager Mike Flad or Chief of Police Tim Stehr as alleged in the complaint, or in any other manner of which the City is aware prior to describing such allegations as underlying his FEHA and/or government tort claims for retaliation and in the

complaint in this action. None of the actions described in plaintiff's Complaint were in retaliation for plaintiff's non-existent alleged complaints of racial discrimination in the Burbank Police Department.

Plaintiff was not demoted from Deputy Chief to Captain. At all relevant times, plaintiff has held the position of Captain. There is no Deputy Chief position or classification in the Burbank Police Department. The Chief of Police has been authorized to designate one of his captains to serve an assignment in the capacity of a Deputy Police Chief. Plaintiff, as a captain, served in that assigned capacity from approximately August 2007 until approximately May 2009. The captain serving in the assigned capacity of Deputy Police Chief was tasked with day-to-day oversight of the Department's operations and to train and mentor new Captains. This assignment was created under a previous administration.

In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police

Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the

Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and he wanted to have more direct

control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the

assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and re
assigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw

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 $1\ \|$ internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

- Tim Stehr, Mike Flad and members of the City's Management Services (b) Department area aware of plaintiff's failure to complain of alleged race discrimination. The following witnesses were aware of the reasons for the 2009 restructuring of the Police Department: Plaintiff, Chief of Police Tim Stehr and his Command Staff, all members of the Department who received the Chief's Daily Bulletin on the restructuring, Elizabeth J. Gibbons, City Manager Mike Flad. Also, internal affairs investigators, as well as complaining and other witnesses in internal affairs investigations may have knowledge relevant hereto, however the identity of such persons is privileged and confidential under Penal Code §832.7 and Evidence Code §1043, particularly to the extent such investigations remains ongoing.
- The following documents relate to the restructuring: May 14, 2009 and letter (c) from Juli C. Scott to Elizabeth J. Gibbons and documents referred to therein; Burbank Police Daily Bulletin dated May 4, 2009; City of Burbank, Management Services Division, Personnel Action Forms as to plaintiff, 2007 through 2009, and other miscellaneous Human Resources, personnel and payroll documents. Documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when and if they are discoverable.

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Failure to State a Cause of Action)

This is a legal defense.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(a) At all times relevant to plaintiff's claims, the City acted in good faith and dealt reasonably and fairly with plaintiff. Plaintiff did not complain about discrimination in the Burbank Police Department to either City Manager Mike Flad or Chief of Police Tim Stehr as alleged in the complaint, or in any other manner of which the City is aware prior to describing such allegations as underlying his FEHA and/or government tort claims for retaliation and in the complaint in this action. None of the actions described in plaintiff's Complaint were in retaliation for plaintiff's non-existent alleged complaints of racial discrimination in the Burbank Police Department.

Plaintiff was not demoted from Deputy Chief to Captain. At all relevant times, plaintiff had held the position of Captain. There is no Deputy Chief position or classification in the Burbank Police Department. The Chief of Police has been authorized to designate one of his captains to serve an assignment in the capacity of a Deputy Police Chief. Plaintiff, as a captain, served in that assigned capacity from approximately August 2007 until approximately May 2009. The captain serving in the assigned capacity of Deputy Police Chief was tasked with day-to-day oversight of the Department's operations and to train and mentor new Captains. This assignment was created under a previous administration.

In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police

Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the

Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and Chief Stehr wanted to have

more direct control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the

assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and re
assigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of Impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

- Department area aware of plaintiff's failure to complain of alleged race discrimination.

 The following witnesses were aware of the reasons for the 2009 restructuring of the Police Department: Plaintiff, Chief of Police Tim Stehr and his Command Staff, all members of the Department who received the Chief's Daily Bulletin on the restructuring, Elizabeth J. Gibbons, City Manager Mike Flad. Also, internal affairs investigators, as well as complaining and other witnesses in internal affairs investigations may have knowledge relevant hereto, however the identity of such persons is privileged and confidential under *Penal Code* §832.7 and Evidence Code §1043, particularly to the extent such investigations remains ongoing.
- (c) The following documents relate to the restructuring: May 14, 2009 and letter from Juli C. Scott to Elizabeth J. Gibbons and documents referred to therein; Burbank Police Daily Bulletin dated May 4, 2009; City of Burbank, Management Services Division, Personnel Action Forms as to plaintiff, 2007 through 2009, and other miscellaneous Human Resources, personnel and payroll documents. **Documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is**

AND RESPONSES IN DISPUTE

The damages allegedly suffered by plaintiff, if any, were directly or proximately caused by the acts, omissions, carelessness, or negligence of plaintiff and/or third parties with whom he affiliated. As noted above, plaintiff did not complaint of discrimination and was not "demoted" to Captain. Information related to allegations of improprieties by plaintiff or others that is part of an ongoing investigation protected by *Penal Code* §832.7 and *Evidence Code* §1043 will be provided when and if it is relevant and discoverable. Discovery is continuing.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Exclusive Remedy of Worker's Compensation)

- (a) This is primarily a legal defense. To the extent that plaintiff's Complaint, or any purported cause of action therein, alleges emotional of physical injury, any recovery is barred by the exclusive remedy provision of the California Workers' Compensation Act, Labor Code §§ 132a and 3200, et seq. Plaintiff has filed workers' compensation claims, and is currently out on medical leave. Discovery is continuing.
 - (b-c) City's Workers' compensation files and persons listed therein.

SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Absence of Ratification)

(a) No alleged acts of discrimination or other civil wrongs allegedly committed against plaintiff, if any occurred, were authorized, ratified, or approved by the City or any supervising or managing agent. Plaintiff did not complain about discrimination in the Burbank Police Department to either City Manager Mike Flad or Chief of Police Tim Stehr as alleged in the complaint, or in any other manner of which the City is aware prior to describing such allegations as underlying his FEHA and/or government tort claims for retaliation and in the complaint in this action.

 Moreover, plaintiff was not demoted from Deputy Chief to Captain. At all relevant times, plaintiff had held the position of Captain. There is no Deputy Chief position or classification in the Burbank Police Department. The Chief of Police has been authorized to designate one of his captains to serve an assignment in the capacity of a Deputy Police Chief. Plaintiff, as a captain, served in that assigned capacity from approximately August 2007 until approximately May 2009. The captain serving in the assigned capacity of Deputy Police Chief was tasked with day-to-day oversight of the Department's operations and to train and mentor new Captains. This assignment was created under a previous administration.

In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police

Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the

Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and Chief Stehr wanted to have

more direct control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the

assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and re
assigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

(b) Tim Stehr, Mike Flad and members of the City's Management Services

Department area aware of plaintiff's failure to complain of alleged race discrimination.

The following witnesses were aware of the reasons for the 2009 restructuring of the Police Department: Plaintiff, Chief of Police Tim Stehr and his Command Staff, all members of the Department who received the Chief's Daily Bulletin on the restructuring, Elizabeth J. Gibbons, City Manager Mike Flad. Also, internal affairs investigators, as well as complaining and other witnesses in internal affairs investigations may have knowledge relevant hereto, however the identity of such persons is privileged and confidential under *Penal Code* §832.7 and Evidence Code §1043, particularly to the extent such investigations remains ongoing.

(c) The following documents relate to the restructuring: May 14, 2009 and letter from Juli C. Scott to Elizabeth J. Gibbons and documents referred to therein; Burbank Police Daily Bulletin dated May 4, 2009; City of Burbank, Management Services Division, Personnel Action Forms as to plaintiff, 2007 through 2009, and other miscellaneous Human Resources, personnel and payroll documents. Documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when and if they are discoverable.

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Business Necessity)

(a) Plaintiff did not complain about discrimination in the Burbank Police

Department to either City Manager Mike Flad or Chief of Police Tim Stehr as alleged in the complaint, or in any other manner of which the City is aware prior to describing such allegations as underlying his FEHA and/or government tort claims for retaliation and in the complaint in this action.

Moreover, plaintiff was not demoted from Deputy Chief to Captain. At all relevant times, plaintiff had held the position of Captain. There is no Deputy Chief position or classification in the Burbank Police Department. The Chief of Police has been authorized to designate one of his captains to serve an assignment in the capacity of a Deputy Police Chief. Plaintiff, as a captain, served in that assigned capacity from approximately August 2007 until approximately May 2009. The captain serving in the assigned capacity of Deputy Police Chief was tasked with day-to-day oversight of the Department's operations and to train and mentor new Captains. This assignment was created under a previous administration.

In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police

Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the

Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and Chief Stehr wanted to have

more direct control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the

assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and re
assigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

(b) Tim Stehr, Mike Flad and members of the City's Management Services

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The following witnesses were aware of the reasons for the 2009 restructuring of the Police Department: Plaintiff, Chief of Police Tim Stehr and his Command Staff, all members of the Department who received the Chief's Daily Bulletin on the restructuring, Elizabeth J. Gibbons, City Manager Mike Flad. Also, internal affairs investigators, as well as complaining and other witnesses in internal affairs investigations may have knowledge relevant hereto, however the identity of such persons is privileged and confidential under Penal Code §832.7 and Evidence Code §1043, particularly to the extent such investigations remains ongoing.

The following documents relate to the restructuring: May 14, 2009 and letter (c) from Juli C. Scott to Elizabeth J. Gibbons and documents referred to therein; Burbank Police Daily Bulletin dated May 4, 2009; City of Burbank, Management Services Division, Personnel Action Forms as to plaintiff, 2007 through 2009, and other miscellaneous Human Resources, personnel and payroll documents. Documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when and if they are discoverable.

NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Manager's Privilege)

Plaintiff did not complain about discrimination in the Burbank Police (a) Department to either City Manager Mike Flad or Chief of Police Tim Stehr as alleged in the complaint, or in any other manner of which the City is aware prior to describing such allegations as underlying his FEHA and/or government tort claims for retaliation and in the complaint in this action.

Moreover, plaintiff was not demoted from Deputy Chief to Captain. At all relevant times, plaintiff had held the position of Captain. There is no Deputy Chief position or classification in the Burbank Police Department. The Chief of Police has been authorized to designate one of his captains to serve an assignment in the capacity of a Deputy Police Chief. Plaintiff, as a captain, served in that assigned capacity from approximately August 2007 until approximately May 2009. The captain serving in the assigned capacity of Deputy Police Chief was tasked with day-to-day oversight of the Department's operations and to train and mentor new Captains. This assignment was created under a previous administration.

In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police

Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the

Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and Chief Stehr wanted to have

more direct control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the

assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and re
assigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

(b) Tim Stehr, Mike Flad and members of the City's Management Services

Moreover, plaintiff was not demoted from Deputy Chief to Captain. At all relevant times, plaintiff had held the position of Captain. There is no Deputy Chief position or classification in the Burbank Police Department. The Chief of Police has been authorized to designate one of his captains to serve an assignment in the capacity of a Deputy Police Chief. Plaintiff, as a captain, served in that assigned capacity from approximately August 2007 until approximately May 2009. The captain serving in the assigned capacity of Deputy Police Chief was tasked with day-to-day oversight of the Department's operations and to train and mentor new Captains. This assignment was created under a previous administration.

In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and Chief Stehr wanted to have more direct control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and reassigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

(b) Tim Stehr, Mike Flad and members of the City's Management Services

Department area aware of plaintiff's failure to complain of alleged race discrimination.

The following witnesses were aware of the reasons for the 2009 restructuring of the Police Department: Plaintiff, Chief of Police Tim Stehr and his Command Staff, all members of the Department who received the Chief's Daily Bulletin on the restructuring, Elizabeth J. Gibbons, City Manager Mike Flad. Also, internal affairs investigators, as well as complaining and other witnesses in internal affairs investigations may have knowledge relevant hereto, however the identity of such persons is privileged and confidential under *Penal Code* §832.7 and Evidence Code §1043, particularly to the extent such investigations remains ongoing.

(c) The following documents relate to the restructuring: May 14, 2009 and letter from Juli C. Scott to Elizabeth J. Gibbons and documents referred to therein; Burbank Police Daily Bulletin dated May 4, 2009; City of Burbank, Management Services Division, Personnel Action Forms as to plaintiff, 2007 through 2009, and other miscellaneous Human Resources, personnel and payroll documents. **Documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when and if they are discoverable.**

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Lack of Knowledge)

(a) Plaintiff did not complain about discrimination in the Burbank Police

Department to either City Manager Mike Flad or Chief of Police Tim Stehr as alleged in the complaint, or in any other manner of which the City is aware prior to describing such allegations as underlying his FEHA and/or government tort claims for retaliation and in the complaint in this action.

AND RESPONSES IN DISPUTE

Department area aware of plaintiff's failure to complain of alleged race discrimination.

(c) There are no documents relating to plaintiff's non-existent alleged complaints of discrimination.

FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Unclean Hands)

(a) Plaintiff did not complain about discrimination in the Burbank Police

Department to either City Manager Mike Flad or Chief of Police Tim Stehr as alleged in the complaint, or in any other manner of which the City is aware prior to describing such allegations as underlying his FEHA and/or government tort claims for retaliation and in the complaint in this action.

Moreover, plaintiff was not demoted from Deputy Chief to Captain. At all relevant times, plaintiff had held the position of Captain. There is no Deputy Chief position or classification in the Burbank Police Department. The Chief of Police has been authorized to designate one of his captains to serve an assignment in the capacity of a Deputy Police Chief. Plaintiff, as a captain, served in that assigned capacity from approximately August 2007 until approximately May 2009. The captain serving in the assigned capacity of Deputy Police Chief was tasked with day-to-day oversight of the Department's operations and to train and mentor new Captains. This assignment was created under a previous administration.

In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police

Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the

Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and Chief Stehr wanted to have

more direct control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the

assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and re-

assigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

- (b) Tim Stehr, Mike Flad and members of the City's Management Services

 Department area aware of plaintiff's failure to complain of alleged race discrimination.

 The following witnesses were aware of the reasons for the 2009 restructuring of the Police

 Department: Plaintiff, Chief of Police Tim Stehr and his Command Staff, all members of
 the Department who received the Chief's Daily Bulletin on the restructuring, Elizabeth J.

 Gibbons, City Manager Mike Flad. Also, internal affairs investigators, as well as

 complaining and other witnesses in internal affairs investigations may have

 knowledge relevant hereto, however the identity of such persons is privileged and

 confidential under *Penal Code* §832.7 and Evidence Code §1043, particularly to the
 extent such investigations remains ongoing.
- (c) The following documents relate to the restructuring: May 14, 2009 and letter from Juli C. Scott to Elizabeth J. Gibbons and documents referred to therein; Burbank Police Daily Bulletin dated May 4, 2009; City of Burbank, Management Services Division, Personnel Action Forms as to plaintiff, 2007 through 2009, and other miscellaneous Human Resources, personnel and payroll documents. **Documents gathered or**

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generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when and if they are discoverable.

FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Estoppel)

Plaintiff did not complain about discrimination in the Burbank Police (a) Department to either City Manager Mike Flad or Chief of Police Tim Stehr as alleged in the complaint, or in any other manner of which the City is aware prior to describing such allegations as underlying his FEHA and/or government tort claims for retaliation and in the complaint in this action.

Moreover, plaintiff was not demoted from Deputy Chief to Captain. At all relevant times, plaintiff had held the position of Captain. There is no Deputy Chief position or classification in the Burbank Police Department. The Chief of Police has been authorized to designate one of his captains to serve an assignment in the capacity of a Deputy Police Chief. Plaintiff, as a captain, served in that assigned capacity from approximately August 2007 until approximately May 2009. The captain serving in the assigned capacity of Deputy Police Chief was tasked with day-to-day oversight of the Department's operations and to train and mentor new Captains. This assignment was created under a previous administration.

In May 2009, Chief of Police Tim Stehr decided to restructure the Police Department. He did not believe that there was a pressing need for the role of the Captain serving in the capacity of Deputy Chief, and Chief Stehr wanted to have more direct control and contact within the Department. Therefore, he eliminated the assignment of having a Captain serve in the capacity of Deputy Police Chief and re-

assigned plaintiff as the Captain in command of the Investigations Division.

Part of Chief Stehr's decision to restructure was based upon a loss of confidence in plaintiff's ability to fulfill the tasks given to the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment. The most serious contributing factor was that Chief Stehr had received allegations of impropriety concerning plaintiff, including that plaintiff had improperly interfered in an attempted to influence an internal investigation. As the Captain with the Deputy Chief assignment, plaintiff oversaw internal affairs investigations conducted by the Department, which oversight was not appropriate given the allegations against plaintiff.

- (b) Tim Stehr, Mike Flad and members of the City's Management Services

 Department area aware of plaintiff's failure to complain of alleged race discrimination.

 The following witnesses were aware of the reasons for the 2009 restructuring of the Police

 Department: Plaintiff, Chief of Police Tim Stehr and his Command Staff, all members of
 the Department who received the Chief's Daily Bulletin on the restructuring, Elizabeth J.

 Gibbons, City Manager Mike Flad. Also, internal affairs investigators, as well as
 complaining and other witnesses in internal affairs investigations may have
 knowledge relevant hereto, however the identity of such persons is privileged and
 confidential under *Penal Code* §832.7 and Evidence Code §1043, particularly to the
 extent such investigations remains ongoing.
- (c) The following documents relate to the restructuring: May 14, 2009 and letter from Juli C. Scott to Elizabeth J. Gibbons and documents referred to therein; Burbank Police Daily Bulletin dated May 4, 2009; City of Burbank, Management Services Division, Personnel Action Forms as to plaintiff, 2007 through 2009, and other miscellaneous Human Resources, personnel and payroll documents. **Documents gathered or**

1	generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff, which is						
2	ongoing and as such remains confidential and privileged, will be provided when						
3	and if they are discoverable.						
4	SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE						
5	(Res Judicata and Collateral Estoppel)						
7	(a) The City currently has no facts to support this affirmative defense.						
8	Discovery is continuing.						
9	SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE						
10	(After-Acquired Evidence)						
11	(a)-(c) Any facts, witnesses, or documents pertaining to this defense are part of a						
12	ongoing internal investigation which is protected under <i>Penal Code</i> §832.7 and <i>Evidence</i>						
13 14	Code §1043.						
15	EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE						
16	(Statute of Limitations)						
17	(a) Some or all of plaintiff's claims are barred by the applicable statute of						
18	limitations, California Code of Civil Procedure §335.1 and California Government Code §§						
19	911.2, 12960, 12965. Some of the actions/events raised in pleadings in this action						
20 21	occurred more than one year before plaintiff filed his DFEH Charge and government tort						
22	claim. Discovery is continuing.						
23	<u>NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE</u>						
24	(Privilege and Immunities)						
25	This is a legal claim made in defense to certain kinds of causes of action.						
26	TWENTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE						
27	(Additional Defenses)						
28	-39-						
	SEPARATE STATEMENT OF FORM INTERROGATORIES-EMPLOYMENT LAW AND RESPONSES IN DISPUTE						

This is a legal reservation of rights for further defenses as the become apparent.

Discovery is continuing. (Emphasis added.)

REASON WHY FURTHER RESPONSE SHOULD BE COMPELLED:

It is clear from defendant's response that defendant relies upon "witness information and documents gathered or generated during the investigation into alleged improprieties by plaintiff" in regard to the alleged reasons for its demotion of plaintiff from Deputy Chief to Captain. Indeed, defendant claims that the "the most serious contributing factor" relied upon by defendant in demoting plaintiff was the alleged improprieties of plaintiff which are the subject of these alleged confidential investigations. Defendant cannot have its cake and eat it too. Plaintiff is entitled to be apprised by defendant under oath of all facts, witnesses, and documents that defendant claims allegedly support its contentions in this matter so that plaintiff may rebut same and demonstrate that such alleged reasons are false, pretextual, and a sham, and that the real reason for the demotion and other adverse employment actions taken against plaintiff was retaliation by defendant for plaintiff engaging in activities protected by *Labor Code* Section 1102.5 and FEHA.

Plaintiff contends that none of the requested information and documents are confidential and protected from discovery, under Penal Code §832.7, Evidence Code §1043, the attorney-client privilege, the attorney work-product doctrine, or any other privilege. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference all of the authorities and argument regarding the relevance, discoverability, and reasons why such information and documents are not privileged as set forth above in regard to Form Interrogatory No. 201.3 as though set forth here in extenso.

1 2 3	DATED:	3/4/10	Ву:	GREGORY W. SMITH CHRISTOPHER BRIZZOLARA
4				Attorneys for Plaintiff
5				WILLIAM TAYLOR
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	-1-	SEPARATE STATEM	MENT OF FO	-41- DRM INTERROGATORIES-EMPLOYMENT LAW SPONSES IN DISPUTE

,	DDOOF OF SEDVICE					
1	PROOF OF SERVICE					
2	STATE OF CALIFORNIA)					
3	COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)					
5	I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 years of age, and am not a party to the within action; my business address is 6300 Canoga Avenue, Suite 1590, Woodland Hills, California 91367.					
7	On the date hereinbelow specified, I served the foregoing document, described as set forth below on the interested parties in this action by placing true copies thereof enclosed in sealed envelopes, at Woodland Hills, addressed as follows:					
9	DATE OF SERVICE : March 5, 2010					
10 11	DOCUMENT SERVED : SEPARATE STATEMENT OF FORM INTERROGATORIES-EMPLOYMENT LAW AND RESPONSES IN DISPUTE					
12	PARTIES SERVED : SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST.					
13	XXX (BY REGULAR MAIL) I caused such envelope(s) with postage thereon fully prepaid					
14	mailing. It is deposited with U.S. postal service on that same day in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than or					
15 16						
17	day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.					
18 19	XXX (BY ELECTRONIC MAIL) I caused such document to be electronically mailed to Christopher Brizzolara, Esq. at the following e-mail address samorai@adelphia.net.					
	XXX (STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California					
20	that the above is true and correct.					
2122	(FEDERAL) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of the court at whose direction the service was made.					
23						
24	EXECUTED at Woodland Hills, California on March 5, 2010.					
25	Selma I. Francia					
26						
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28						
20	-42-					

SERVICE LIST

WILLIAM TAYLOR v. CITY OF BURBANK LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. BC 422 252

Christopher Brizzolara, Esq. 1528 16th Street Santa Monica, California 90404 (By Electronic Mail Only)

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